Balanced diet for children

2561. SHRI S. ANBALAGAN: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that vast majority of children in the country are unable to get balanced diet at least one time in a day;

(b) if so, the details of the nutritional diets available to the children of this country as compared to those of China;

(c) whether Government propose to launch any scheme in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) As per the National Nutrition Monitoring Bureau (NNMB) Technical Report No. 21,2002, the average daily intake of food and nutrients by pre-school children was below the Recommended Dietary Allowances (RDA). The average daily intake of protective foods like milk and milk products, green leafy vegetable, fats and oils was very low in 7-9 year old children. The consumption of pulses, green leafy vegetables, milk, fruits, fats and oils was inadequate among all other age groups.

(b) The average daily intake of various foods by children as per NNMB Report was as under:

Food Group	% of RDA
Cereals	80
Other Vegetables	80
Pulses	40
Sugar & Jaggary	30
Fats & Oils	30
Milk & Milk Products	20
Green Leafy Vegetables	15

As per the survey conducted by the Chinese Centre for Disease Control and Prevention during 1990-2000, the nutritional standard of children under-5 years in China has improved substantially and the Calorie and Protein intake of people of China generally meets the Recommended Dietary Allowance.

(c) and (d) The Government is already seized of the problem and is implementing a number of schemes to improve the nutritional status of children. Some of these are as under:

(i) Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme (Ministry of Women & Child Development);

(ii) National Programme for Nutritional Support to Primary Education (Mid-Day Meal Schemes) Department of Elementary Education & Literacy);

(iii) Nutrition Programme for Adolescent Girls in 51 districts to provide free foodgrains to undernourished adolescent girls (Ministry of Women & Child Development);

(iv) Nutrition Education and Training Programmes of Food and Nutrition Board (Ministry of Women & Child Development);

(v) Iron and Folic Acid and Vitamin A Supplementation programmes (Ministry of Health & Family Welfare);

(vi) National Iodine Deficiency Disorders Control Programme (Ministry of Health & Family Welfare);

(vii) Targeted Public Distribution System (Department of Food & Public Distribution).

Schemes for child development

2562. SHRI N.R. GOVINDARAJAR: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to bring a new scheme to implement the development of children in the country;